**Minutes of ESIP Call March 23, 2010**

**Participants**

Paul Currier (NH DES), Adria Elskus (USGS and UMaine), Diane Gould (EPA), Jawed Hameedi (NOAA), David Keeley (GOMC), Gary Lines (EC), and Marilyn ten Brink (EPA)

***0.75 hour has been added as in-kind for all participants.***

**1. Conference Calls**

Christine Tilburg mentioned ESIP will no longer be able to use the USGS conference bridge toll-free number as we have been over the past 3 years. Christine is looking for another toll-free conference line to use for the various subcommittee meetings. In 2009, 29 calls were placed on the bridge. Diane Gould stated that the EPA conference bridge has a regional 888 number that requires a modest fee. EPA could cover the fee. Diane would need to make the reservations. Christine asked if we could try using the EPA line for the calls to be scheduled in April. Diane agreed to this plan.

**2. ESIP June Meeting and Agenda Items**

As noted in a message that Christine sent earlier this month, the Council's Working Group and general Council meeting tentative dates conflict with the 3rd annual ESIP Steering Committee meeting. Christine has changed the GMRI rental to June 10. Susan Russell-Robinson has suggested that the ESIP meeting use an entire day. The morning could be spent meeting with chairs of other **Council** subcommittees/committees to discuss linkages with ESIP. Example include Gulfwatch, Climate Change Network, and Habitat. Paul Currier suggested that the Information Management Committee also be included.

The process of drafting the agenda has begun. Current suggestions for agenda items include:

1. 12 month timeline for July 2010-2011 (suggested by C. Tilburg)
2. Update on all subcommittee activities (suggested by J. Latimer)
3. Demonstration of Indicator Reporting Tool (suggested by G. Lines)
4. ESIP 2.0 discussion revisited (suggested by A. Elskus).

David Keeley asked that time be spent clarifying appropriate development proposals with respect to ESIP 2.0.

**3. Fact Sheet Reviews**

The Aquaculture Subcommittee is currently drafting their fact sheet. Christine stated that she would like to know the Steering Committee's input on potential review strategies for the subcommittee fact sheets. She would like the ESIP Steering Committee to review all fact sheets. In addition, the Council Communications Team would need to review the fact sheets. Adria Elskus stated that having some managers, policy makers, or other individuals representing our users review might be helpful. David thought that there are several categories of people that might be appropriate to represent: Managers, policy, science, and providers.

Gary Lines agreed but stated that the fact sheet reviewers should be asked if the information is factually correct and possibly useful. He worries that the review process might create a situation of "a lot of cooks in the kitchen." Adria agreed that it will be important to provide a very specific scope for the review process. Questions could include: "Are there data we've missed?" "Does the information in this fact sheet align with Council policy?"

Christine agreed to draft up a framework, series of questions and potential reviewing categories for the next call. ***(Action to be taken: Christine will prepare some information for a review discussion).***

**4. ESIP Funding Idea**

Christine is currently drafting two documents on potential funding ideas for the Council. The two proposal ideas are located below.

* "Spotlight on my backyard" - Similar to deliverables Christine has previously for Environment Canada and Massachusetts CZM. This idea focuses on writing a report summarizing a particular suite of indicators for the jurisdiction of interest (previous reports both focused on climate change indicators). David wondered if Gary or Diane might help document how useful the ESIP deliverables have been. David also mentioned that as part of the June Council meetings there will likely be a 1/2 day forum to release the State of the Gulf Report. It's important that ESIP's contributions during this event be recognized.
* "My Window to Indicators" - This idea involves creating a button that resides on the partner organization's webpage. The button links into a different portal of the ESIP Indicator Reporting Tool focused on suites of indicators of interest to the partner organization. PDFs summarizing the indicators would also be included. Graphs would already be pre-selected therefore taking away a lot of the initial steps for the partner organization. David stated that he liked the idea of removing barriers that are preventing people from using ESIP materials. Another appeal of this idea is that Christine would be able to look at page hits and see who is using the portal. Gary asked if there are any thoughts on where this funding might be found. Diane mentioned that the EPA should be connecting with individuals that submitted GEOSS Letters of Intent soon (as ESIP did). Gary pointed out that the partner organization would need to be very involved in deciding at what point in the Indicator Reporting Tool initialization process the portal accessed data and what questions were important to them. There should also be a communications plan (perhaps of up to 6 months) to be sure that the users know the portal/button is there.

**Next Call: April 27 at 10:00 AM ET**